The Orthodox Herald

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PROTECTION

Pokrov/The Protection of the Mother of God is celebrated on October 1/14. It is not one of the twelve Great Holy Days on the Church Calendar; but it is a day which is celebrated with great solemnity by members of the Orthodox Church, whose roots are in the Slavonic tradition.

Sad to relate that many parishes are neglecting this day. Perhaps the reason is that too much emphasis is placed on its historical story, when the Mother of God appeared in a church in Constantinople in the 10th century and was seen by Saints Andrew and his disciple Epiphanius to be hovering in the air over the altar holding a veil over her arms, which were outstretched in prayer. This expressed her prayer of intercession for the faithful, who were under duress. This occurrence is depicted on the ikon for the day.

We get the bigger picture at Matins in the Stichar. "As they beheld the Queen of all ... with outstretched arms in the air, she prayed for the peace of the world, the confirmation of Orthodox Christians and the salvation of our souls."

As Orthodox Christians, we believe that this was not a "one time" appearance by the Mother of God. There are many times when she appeared, offering her love and protection. She did not forget her earthly life after she went to her heavenly home. She continues to place our prayers before the throne of Her Son Jesus Christ. This is why she has been so loved by Orthodox Christians and why her day of Protection is so hardily observed.

St. John Kronstadt (1829-1908) wrote in his memoirs My Life in Christ, "It is because of the incarnation of the Word that the all-holy Virgin has been given to us as an all-powerful intercessor, who protects us from sins, misfortunes and disasters. Praying for us day and night, our Queen, whose power no enemy

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REVIVAL OF BELLS

Most of the Orthodox parishes in this country were organized after 1915. These early communities often purchased church buildings from Protestants who were upgrading. These churches were typically oblong with a spire at one end which housed a bell. The Orthodox usually removed the spire, replacing it with a cupola. They were fortunate if the bells were included in the purchase price. Usually the parish had to purchase several bells; or if they were fortunate, they received them as a gift from Russia. Bells are necessary, as they are the "voice" of the church.

When the parishes became more prosperous and new church buildings were built, they often could not support the weight of the bells or the vibrations. The bells were replaced by recordings. This was also done by parishes who could no longer find bellringers or who wanted to be more modern. However, this innovation never took hold. The recordings were seldom played and the only evidence that a church had them was the huge control panel unit taking up much needed space in the vestry.

When steam engines on the railroad were being phased out, some parishes petitioned and received some of the bells from these engines. They stored them until a new generation recently

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PRIORITIES

A professor stood before his class. On his desk he had some items which he planned to use to illustrate a point he was going to make. When the class began, without saying a word, he picked up a large empty mayonnaise jar and began to fill it with rocks, which were about 2 inches in diameter. He then asked the students if the jar was full. They all agreed that it was.

Then the professor picked up a container of pebbles. He shook the jar and poured them into the jar. The pebbles rolled into the open areas between the rocks. He added more pebbles until the jar would take no more. He then asked the students if the jar was full. They laughingly agreed that it was.

He then picked up a box with sand and proceeded to pour it into the jar. The sand filled up all the rest of the spaces left between the rocks and the pebbles.

"Now," said the professor, "I want you to equate this with your life. The rocks are important things ... your family, your partner, your health, your children, your family, your religion. Anything that is so important to you that, if it were lost, you would be devastated.

The pebbles are the other things that matter like your job, your house, your car.

The sand is everything else – the Small Stuff.

If you put the sand into the jar first, there is no room for the pebbles or the rocks. The same goes for your life. If you spend all your energy and time on the small stuff, you will never have room for the things that are important to you. Pay attention to the things that are critical.

Play with your children. Take time for your medical checkups. Tell the people in your life that you love them, take time to enrich your spiritual life. There will always be time to clean the house,

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News CHRONOLOGY

OCTOBER 2001

BISHOP SAVA (Anthony Urich), formerly a student at St. Tikhon Seminary (1960), is assigned to Slavenia and is encountering great difficulties in renovating the war-ravaged diocese.

A HISTORICAL AND EDUCATIONAL COMPLEX is being planned for The Metropolia Center of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church in the USA in Bound Brook, NJ. A museum to house precious articles will have proper atmospheric control. The area beneath the Cathedral, which housed the museum, is being converted to a mausoleum, which will have burial spaces for 226.

MANY OF THE SITES IN THE HOLY LAND visited by Christian pilgrims are located in predominantly Palestinian-populated areas, yet most of the revenue goes to Israei-owned-and-run travel agents, hotels, restaurants, and gift shops. There is a severe economic disparity that exists between Israelis and Palestinians. Many Christian Palestinians depend on tourist revenues in such places as Bethlehem, Jerusalem, and Jericho in order to support themselves and their families.

ORTHODOXY IN BRAZIL. Immigrants from Western Ukraine went to southern Brazil early in the 20th century to claim farmland promised them. There were not enough priests to serve them so in a few generations they became assimilated into other religions or practiced no religion. In the 1980s, young men were brought to St. Sophia Ukraine Seminary from Brazil to New Jersey in the USA to study for the priesthood. One of them eventually became Bishop Jeremiah, who, in the pattern of Orthodox missionaries, developed a new chant to match the cadence of the Brazilian Portuguese language. There remains a lack of priests and funds in Brazil. Archimandrite Anastasije, M.D., of Dover, FL brought the mission to the attention of American Orthodox. Some seminarians came to study in America but it was deemed more feasible to build a seminary in Brazil. The OCMC raised $15,000 and the remainder $45,000 came from the faithful. An OCMC team has gone to Brazil to help finish the construction and do catechetical work. More help is needed. For info contact: Ukrainian Orthodox Church, PO Box X, Bound Brook, NJ 08880 or call 732-356-0090.

FRIENDS OF MT. ATHOS, which includes Britain's Prince Charles, recently visited Mt. Athos and helped to dig a path to one of the monasteries. They stayed at the Vatopedi Monastery.

THE CARPATHO-RUSSIAN NEWSPAPER is obtainable for $20 a year from PO Box 156, Allentown, NJ 08501. It is bi-lingual: half in Lemko and half in English. It is a small paper but rich in stories of the Lemko land and people. It helps you get beyond genealogy.

A COUNTESS AND A MARCHIONESS from Rome presented Patriarch Alexei of Moscow with a relic of St. Nicholas, which had been at a convent in Rome. They also gave him a vial containing some "manna of St. Nicholas," a sweet smelling liquid which inexplicably oozes from the saint's body. "Many believe it has miraculous properties." They were received in a solemn ceremony and placed in the new Cathedral of Christ the Saviour.

THIRTY-FOUR VALUABLE ICONS smuggled out of Russia have been returned to the Russian Orthodox Church by the U.S. Custom Service. They were valued at $3 million and seized from a Salt Lake City bookshop owner in 1993 by the Custom Services. The icons are being kept for the time being at St. Nicholas Cathedral in New York.

THE OCA held a farewell dinner in Moscow for the outgoing Ambassador James Collins. Present, along with various dignitaries, was a delegation representing the OCA from the U.S. Over 120 people attended the dinner.

HOLY TRINITY CATHEDRAL in Chicago was designed by Louis Sullivan and constructed under the leadership of St. John (Kochurov) and was consecrated by St. Tikhon (Patriarch of Moscow) in 1903. It is noted that the candle stands were made in Russia, where candles of a different size are used. For almost 100 years this has created a problem. Recently, a sample candle holder was taken to Russia and holders were fabricated to hold America size candles.

ORTHODOX PEACE FELLOWSHIP has formed a chapter in North America. It seeks to live the peace of Christ every day, particularly in situations of division and conflict. This non-profit international organization met in Ohio recently. For info contact: John Oliver, 330-453-3012, or write PO Box 655, Barton, OH 43905.

THE CZECHOSLOVAK GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY will hold a conference from Oct. 31 to Nov. 3 in Pittsburgh, PA. Rusyn Seminars are scheduled for every day. For more info or to register, call 412/749-9899 or rusynone2excite.com.

PATRIARCH IRINEOS has been selected to head the Church of Jerusalem to succeed Patriarch Diodorus. Unfortunately, there was much controversy surrounding the election. The governments of Israel and Jordan were involved as well as the Greek and Arab inhabitants.

POPE JOHN PAUL visited Ukraine as head of the Vatican state at the invitation of President Leonid Kuchma.

THERE IS NO SHORTAGE of priests in the Orthodox Church to fill viable parishes which can afford to pay a living wage.

Continued from front page)
PROTECTION

visible or invisible can withstand, truly she is our mother by grace in accordance with the words uttered by Christ on the Cross to the beloved disciple (John), 'Behold, thy mother!' and to her, 'Behold thy son?'"

He further writes: "We pray to the all-merciful and most pure Mother of God ... and she prays for us. We glorify her – she who is above all glory ... and she prepares eternal glory for us. We often say to her, 'Rejoice', and she asks her Son and God, 'My beloved Son, give them everlasting joy in return for greeting me with joy.'"

This is how Orthodox think and this is why they so love the Mother of God. As St. John wrote, "May we always remember you! May we always pray fervently to you? MAY WE TAKE REFUGE BENEATH THE HOLY PROTECTION!"

Continued from front page)
REVIVAL OF BELLS

found them in the inventory and decided to use them.

At the present time, there is an interest in bells and the process of bell-ringing. Some parishes are building bell towers unconnected to the church building. If this is not feasible, a campanile or low stand is constructed near the church. This is often patterned after the one near the newly-consecrated church in Krynitsa, Poland. Such a campanile was recently built near St. Michael's Church in Irvona, PA, to house four bronze bells. It was built by Allen Figula, a member of the parish, who carved full figure icons of Christ on the end pillars. The one in Irvona differs from the one in Krynitsa, Poland, as it does not have a roof over the bells.

Hopefully, we are seeing a revival of the use of bells in our Orthodox Church. This has always been an integral part of our tradition. There are so many sources of information. Call Allen Figula at 814/672-5597 or Fr. Gregory Lewis 814/672-3846 on information concerning the campanile. Call Blagovest Bells at 415/258-2512 for info on obtaining bronze bells from Russia and instructions on how to ring them.

Continued from front page)
PRIORITIES

fix the disposal, go golfing, go shopping."

Take care of the rocks first, the things that really matter. Set your priorities. The pebbles and sand will fit in. For the rest is just sand...

Continued from Page 125)
KITCHEN CORNER

top. Bake 20-30 minutes at 350° or until light brown.

POTATO PAGATCH

1 box Pillsbury hot roll mix
3 med. potatoes
1/4 lb. American cheese
7 stalks chives
3/4 tsp. salt

Peel and cut potatoes. Cook and drain. Add the cheese, chives and salt. Mash well. Let stand until cold. Prepare hot roll mix as directed. Knead for 1 minute on floured board. Roll out to about a 15-inch square. Pile cold potatoes mixture in center. Pull edges of dough around the potato mixture. Roll out to fit 18x18-inch piece of aluminum foil. Bake at 375° for 20 minutes or until golden brown. Remove from oven and brush top with butter.

FUNDS

ALASKA - We received the booklet "Invisible Protection" from the Pokrov Orthodox Community, PO Box 211271, Anchorage, AK 99521-1271. Sister Kapetolina, a native Alaskan, is the foundress. The booklet describes a funeral in Alaska. Part of it reads: "All Alaska Native villages have their myrrhbearing women, their Nicodemuses, the Josephes of Arimathea, the Marthas and the Marys. They are the almsgivers, the volunteer laborers to dig the gravesite, build the coffin and the Cross. They are the morticians to wash and prepare the body with the home of the deceased being the mortuary as well as the place for services and prayers of the departed until the coffin is finished and the burial site is completed. Death of a loved one, an elder, a friend and preparation for the burial at the village level aids not only the immediate family but also the whole village in their grieving process. It is their loss, too."

Copies of the "Herald" go to these dear people in Alaska with the help of Anonymous, George Benishin, Robert Roth in memory of Anne Sidorick, Tom Swift, Nina Karwatt and the following who gave to both the **ALASKA AND THE MISSION FUNDS** - Anonymous, Anne Smerechnak, in memory of Fr. Igor Tkachuk, Thomas Remick, Carolyn Herman, Ethel Watlock, Paul Laskovich.

MISSION FUND - Nettie Jury. Harry Salaneck in memory of John and July Salaneck. Sophie Greene in memory of Anna and John Lelo and family.

POSTAGE COSTS - We couldn't believe it but our postage did go up again - $100 more this past month. Thank you so much for responding to our need: Pauline Levitsky Paul Laskovich, John Warhol, Olga Chernik, Mary Goomas, Victor and Frances Karaway, Peter and Dorothy Petronka, Dorothy Burochonock, Helen Medic, Marie Choback, Dorothy Bowman, Anna Brovoy, SFC and Mrs. H. Hazzard, Jewel Rhodes, Ann Smerechnak, Sandra Fisher, Carolyn Herman, Nattie Jury, Thomas Remchick, Veronica Suhanic, Leon and Nancy Coval, Anonymous.

MEDITATION

Choir Appreciation

O God of sacred rhythm, yet, Who is timeless and beyond measure: Look upon all the members of our parish choir, and bless them with Your kindness. Grant that their special ministry may elevate the hearts and minds of the faithful to the things of heaven; we pray to You, O Lord: Hear us and have mercy.

O God of heaven: You are hymned by the hosts of angels in doxologies that never cease. May the members of our parish choir praise You all their lives, and continue to sing praises as long as they have their beings. Make their prayer acceptable in Your sight, so that, Your good Spirit may abundantly dwell among Your people; we pray to You, O Lord: Hear us and have mercy.

Great is Your holy Name, O God of heaven! Move our hearts to make melody to You in simplicity, beauty and grace. Grant that we may not be passive listeners to Your words, but actually become participants of eternal life by praising You with the very content of our lives; we pray to You, O Lord: Hear us and have mercy.

Ray Mastroberte
Choirmaster/Soloist

I HAVE BEEN CRUCIFIED WITH CHRIST.

Before us lies the Cross in the midst of the Temple. We bow down before it in piety. It is our symbol of hope.

Jesus died upon that Cross. That was the saddest, most difficult moment for His loved ones who had put so much hope in Him, in the victory of His words which had been so full of peace, love and wisdom. It must have seemed to them that this was the hour of the victory of the forces of darkness.

But this pain lasted only three days, for on the third day Jesus rose from the dead! And it is possible that among His friends, especially in the heart of His dear Mother, the flame of faith did not go out even in that hour and in those days of terrible testing. At last they found their joy and peace in a most unexpected way. Yes, He had been **right!** God truly **had** spoken and acted in Him. He rose from the dead and lives forever in us opening the way to a faith that leads us right up to heaven!

Let us rejoice in our trials. Let us be content to be, as Paul puts it: "crucified with Christ". What can trouble someone who is **already** dead? The greatest defeat is already over - and we are not only crucified, but also raised with Him. So let us not be afraid to live on among the complexities of daily life. Let us not hesitate to always speak and act with love, with confidence and with faith in Jesus, as His friends upon the Cross.

Fr. Ihor Kutash, Ph.D.

OUR GIFTS TO GOD

Today I'm celebrating an anniversary. It's not a day that merits a big celebration, but rather it is a remembrance I hold quietly in my heart.

Over thirty years ago, a notice appeared in our church bulletin: Wanted – Church School Teacher. I was seventeen and very timid, but with my mother's gentle coaxing I nervously approached Father following Divine Liturgy. I can still see the kind smile spread across Fr. Daniel's face as I stammered, "Do you still need a teacher?" He instructed me to speak with Matushka. I vividly remember her presenting me with books and saying I would be teaching the fourth grade students. In that moment, it was as if a door opened for me and I was called to do something special. I still feel great joy when I recall that day. I learned much that year. (Thank you, Matushka Helen!) My simple desire to serve turned into a ten-year experience as a church school teacher and a life-long professional career as an educator.

In the early years of Orthodoxy in America, parishioners' lives centered around their church. Much work was needed in establishing the churches, and people stepped forward to do whatever job was needed. The duties were taken seriously and performed with honor because it was for the church. Through service, talents were often discovered and developed. These talents were viewed as gifts from God and gratefully given back to Him for use in the church. Psalomchyks, tsarkovniks, collectors, choir members, and teachers from the past are still remembered in parishes for their selfless contributions.

Although these same talents are still needed today, we now have opportunities to make use of them in new and creative ways. As our world becomes more technology oriented, individuals with specialized skills offer them for use in the Church. Webmasters design and update websites, such as **www.orthodoxherald.homestead.com**, which are viewed by people around the world. Graphic designers and desktop publishers design the multitude of religious publications and literature available to us.

In recent years, large numbers of immigrants have settled in various parts of the country. Translators, ESL teachers, and people to provide assistance in relocation help to ease the transition for those seeking to start a new life in America.

The number of Orthodox missionaries from the U.S. is steadily increasing. By volunteering for short and long-term work abroad through Project Mexico and Orthodox Christian Mission Center, missionaries provide help and spiritual encouragement to those in great need.

Margaret Pysarchyk

DON'T DIVIDE

News magazines usually divide their publication into departments with the religious section given a half page somewhere near the back. Little, if any, attempt is made to relate matters of faith to the everyday issues of life.

In the same way some people divide their lives into departments. Some think that the spiritual part of their lives can be taken care of by church attendance or doing some good now and then. Then they are free to run their own businesses, choose their entertainment, or relate to people in whatever way that pleases them. But Orthodoxy teaches us that our Christianity cannot be confined to just one area of our lives.

When St. Paul prayed for the believers of Colosse as recorded in Colossians 1:1-11 (as we read on the 23rd of October), he asked God to fill them with the "knowledge of His will in all wisdom and understanding." He asked that they know this Will in every aspect of their life and experiences – what they thought and what they did – so that they would live a life worthy of the Lord and please Him in every way, "being fruitful in every good work and increasing in their knowledge of God."

Our relationship with Christ must affect all areas of our lives. There is no way we can live a life that is pleasing to God if we keep our faith limited to the religious section. It is a total-life experience.

PRESS FUND

Thank you/Spasebo for helping us meet our costs. We look forward to your notes and remarks and words of encouragement. With your help we can keep on publishing. Thank you again. Margaret Balog, Anonymous, Stephanie Chmel, Claudia Sczyrek, Leon and Nancy Coval, Michael Kruge, Mary Kochmaruk, Dorothy Stafiniak, Ann Smerechnak, Sophia Greene, **Mary Kinn,** Valerie Kline, Olga Moscowitch, Arthur Reilly, Paul Stuchlak, Irene Allen, Connie Morgan, Michael and Lucy Lagaza, Philip Tamoush, Ethel Watlock, Elizabeth Mitrook.

Given in memory of Mary Salko Perbetsky. Vera Hatcher in memory of V. Rev. Dimitri Voytilla. Given for prayers for Burchick Family. Olga Weiss prayers for health of Ann Boruch. Carolyn Herman in memory of her parents John and Leona Hutchko. Thomas Remchick in memory of wife: Anna Remchick. Theodore Fedora in memory of **Helen Cudlic**, who died on June 28. Marie Derkasch in memory of husband William and deceased members of Derkasch and Glushko Families. Margaret Bohurjak in memory of

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PRESS FUND

husband John who died 10 years ago. Father and Matushka Stroyen in memory of the many friends, who died in a one month's period: Michael DeBeck, Ann Serpico, Anna Kotchiban, Harry Whitaker, Helen Cudlic, Steve Matrician, Elizabeth Skarupa, Basil Their. Eternal Memory.

NOTES ON OUR 50TH

The "Herald" is uplifting and spiritual. I even started a regiment of Bible reading, a discipline I needed. My first copy was given to me by a very sweet and generous friend, Ann Worobey.

Elfi Post

My sister and I both enjoy reading **The Orthodox Herald**, especially the "Ethnic Chuckle," as it brings back memories of the way we talked to our parents.

Olga Orzol

I have thoroughly enjoyed reading the "Herald" for the past several years and have learned a lot about another branch of our faith.

Dorothy Bowman

Mom fell asleep in the Lord on January 2 quite suddenly. She loved you and the **"Herald"** very much. She would get the Herald through St. Mary's (Monongahela, PA) Packet Plan and would mail it to me. My husband was in the Marine Corps during those years. We had no Orthodox Churches, missions or chaplains where we were stationed. **The Herald** kept us connected to Orthodoxy. We have learned so much from the **Herald** ... God bless you for 50 years of publishing and teaching us about Orthodoxy in plain simple English; not theological words that we don't understand.

Carolyn Hutchko Herman

I am still struggling, learning sometimes frustrated, but I also feel a level of comfort and joy whenever I begin to read about what the Orthodox Church proclaims and believes. It is always a God-sent being able to read some literature, information, spiritual material that not only brings back joyful memories to me, but uplifts me in my present condition.

Alex Polosjuk

We want to acknowledge those who had faith in our mission of publishing an English language paper since 1952. You subscribed from the beginning 50 years ago and have been encouraging us ever since: Julia Dripchak, Rose Hudak, Mary Lorko, Eva Souchick, Nicholas Hanisak, Olga Hromyk, Alex Lezinsky, Katherine Peterson and Alice Yankosky.

The Stroyens

ETHNIC CHUCKLE

Dorohaya Tytya Mareea,

Yak tam kolo vas? Toot everything OK teper, noh yah bulla taka hvora, zhe yah thinking that yah gonna die. Take peeshlo.

One day yah feeling taka barz bad. Kolee yah stala in the morning me holova tak bolela zhe aspirenee neh helpooh yut. Me throat takee raw, zhe ya neh mohla kazatee slovo. Me nose takee all stopped up, zhe yah neh mohlah breathing. Ee yah mala takee temperature zhe yah mohlah noseetee me staree bikini. In other words, yah one sick girl.

Me next door neighbor kazhe me zhe yah got something more tham a cold ee zhe yah better see a doctor. Noh yak? Doctor neh preedeh doh houzuh a yah feeling too sick to go doh officeooh. Noh yah neh mam choice. Yah got bundled up ee me next door neighbor feeling sorry nah meneh volunteered drivovatee meneh do doctorah.

Tam yah checkallah couple hours. Believe me tyotya Mareea, yak cheloveek neh sick kolee predey doh officyu toh budey hvoree pokai vedeet doctora.

Me doctor poveel me zhe yah "one sick girl" ee ohn dall me shot ee prescription nah pillyulee. Yah dumam zhe yah gonna die poke preshla domu. Yah bulla taka sick 1 day, 2 day, 3 day. Nasha krayankah calloola mene nah telephone. Finally ohna kazhe zhe ohna preydaidoh meney. Vee znayaytyeh krayankoo – ohna mayeh lekarstva nah shiykee conditions. Ohna make me wash up, dala cheestee platya nah bed, then ohna rubbed yakes grease nah me chest. Then ohna dala me shoska peetee. Ohna make me go to posteli, ee ohna poklala perenu nah mene.

Yah neh znam shto ohna dala me peetee noh yah tak zaspala! Yah tak sweaty zhe koll yah waked up yah bulla mokra noh me temperaturah went down. Yah finally feeling good. Krayanka no telling me what kind of grease – che goose che woodchuck. Ee ohna neh kazeh shto dala me peete. Ohna me say – it worked didn't it? Ohna right.

Budte zdrovee,
Hanya

BIBLE QUIZ

1. Who came to St. Peter late at night and released him from prison?
2. Who had a late night visit from an angel, who assures him that he would be safe aboard a storm-tossed ship?
3. Who led some officers of the chief priests to pay a late night call on Jesus?
4. What Pharisee came to Jesus late at night?
5. Who met a man with whom he engaged in an all-night wrestling match?
6. Who came through Egypt on a late night visit to almost every household?
7. Where did shepherds receive angels as late visitors?
8. Who frightened His followers, who thought he was a ghost when He passed by them late at night?

ANSWERS:
1. An angel (Acts 12:6-17)
2. St. Paul (Acts 27:23-24)
3. Judas (John 18:3,12)
4. Nicodemus (John 3:1-2)
5. Jacob (Genesis 32:22-31)
6. The angel of death (Exodus 12:29-31)
7. Near Bethlehem (Luke 2:8-16)
8. Jesus, when He walked on the lake (Mark 6:48)

THE WHOLE THING

Most of us are familiar with the saying of St. Herman which is inscribed on his ikon. "From this day, from this hour, from this minute we shall strive above all else to love God."

These few words are taken from a longer teaching which reads:

"If we love someone, then we always think of that one, we strive to please that one; day and night our heart is preoccupied with that object. Is it in this way that you love God? Do you often turn to Him, do you always remember Him and fulfill His holy commandments?

For our good, for our happiness, at least let us give a vow to ourselves, that from this day, from this hour, from this minute, we shall strive above all else to love God and to fulfill His holy will!"

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Fr. W. Basil Stroyen, Ph.D., Editor

SOBORNOST

The Role of Peter

This is not to deny a special role in the life of the Lord and the Church of St. Peter the Apostle. Certainly it was Peter who spoke on the road to Caesarea Philippi, the famous confession of faith, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." (Matthew 16:16) And it was Peter who on the day of Pentecost, after the descent of the Holy Spirit, in the form of tongues of fire, addressed the crowd (Acts 2:14). The Church of the East, however, maintains that Peter, on both occasions, as the first to confess Christ in secret and the first to confess in public, did so **speaking in the name of the apostolic college and of the believing community as a whole.**

In the words of Nicholas Koulomzine,

"The Book of Acts (our only source for the period) displays Peter as the *Protos* or "First" among the Twelve in the heart of the Church. Peter had already taken the initiative of electing the twelfth apostle in place of Judas (Acts 1:15-26); he was the one of the Twelve who made the great speech of Pentecost (Acts 2:14-36). He again, in company with John, spoke to the multitude in the temple after the lame man was healed (Acts 3:12-26), and spoke the next day before the Sanhedrin (Acts 4:8-12). What a striking change from the Simon in the Gospel, the **man of little faith** (Matthew 14:31), who had begun to sink in the waters, and still needed his divine Master's prayers to remain steadfast in faith at the last (Luke 22:32)! He had plighted his faith to Jesus and denied Him thrice, and it had been hard for him to believe in the Resurrection.

...Immediately after the (Pentecost) speech, Peter and the Twelve invite those present to be baptized. "Repent ye, and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ...and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost." (Acts 2:38)"

Peter is also the first "thaumaturge": with John as his companion, he performs the cure of the lame man (Acts 3:1, ff). He is specially cited among the other miracle-working apostles in Acts 5:12. He is also judge, with the Twelve in the first community at Jerusalem (Acts 5, the incident of Ananias and Sapphira).

It is Peter who presides with the Twelve over the organization and administration of their communal possessions (a charge later entrusted to the seven by the Twelve, Acts 2:42; 4:34; 6:1). And, Peter is held responsible to answer before the Sanhedrin (accompanied by John in Acts 4, and the other apostles in Acts 5).

Was Peter the first to take Jesus' place at the celebration of the Eucharist? New Testament texts do not say so, but the Church's life has always centered around the Lord's Supper, and Orthodox Tradition, from earliest times, holds that Peter, in the midst of the Twelve and the first community at Jerusalem, was first in the breaking of the Bread.

Fr. Michael Dahulich, Ph.D
St. Tikhon Seminary

Whatever

We have changed the heading on this column from "Dabs of Thoughts" to "Whatever." We felt that it better described the bits of thoughts and information which it contains.

Not all Arabs are Muslims. Being Arab is an ethnic thing not religious. About 16% of Arabs in the Middle East are Christian. Many of these are Orthodox Christians.

It isn't difficult to make a mountain out of a molehill – just add a little dirt.

Worship gives people the opportunity to praise God; to give themselves in gratitude and humility to Almighty God. It is a time when people offer themselves: their time, their voices, their minds, their hearts, their means.

The burning bush still grows at St. Catherine's Orthodox Monastery on Mt. Sinai. It is a wild raspberry bush and grows so rapidly that it must be cut back every year. A chapel was built under it. To enter the chapel you must remove your shoes as did Moses.

St. Tikhon, the last Patiarch of Moscow, died in "prison" at the hands of the Soviets, who tried to snuff off religion. He had been the reigning bishop of all the Orthodox in America in the early 1900s, as there were no jurisdictions at that time. The church was one.

There was an old Lemko custom of putting a blessed candle in the casket of the deceased.

St. Niphon wrote: "Whoever says that it is impossible to be saved with a wife and children is a deceiver. Abraham had a wife and children and three hundred and eighteen servants, and also much gold and silver, and he was called the friend of God! Many servants of the Church have been saved, and many lovers of the desert (monks); many aristrocrats, and many soldiers; many craftsmen, and many farm labourers. Be devout towards God and loving towards mankind, and you will be saved."

Holy Scripture is given by God not only to humanity in general, but to each individual, to me, to you, to everyone... Every time we either read it ourselves or hear it read in church, we hear our God conversing with us. (St. Tikhon Zadonsk, 18th c)



EDITORS' NOTES

The second week in October here in the mountains at Hunlock Creek, PA is one of indescribable-colorful-beauty. The earth is covered with a carpet of reds, oranges and greens, which are blended by the hand of God. We take intense delight in this view because we know that in a few days it will be gone, replaced by tans, which are like a sturdy but monotonous pallid berber carpet.

We take refuge into the fresh autumn woods, carrying a sharp pocket knife and a basket. To cut podpinkie mushrooms and, hopefully, fill the basket. We'll dry some for Holy Night supper, but we'll enjoy the rest in so many ways. Eggs, beef stroganoff, sauteed with butter and onions, creamed - however we prepare these mushrooms they are delicious. Just say podpinkie to someone from the northeast U.S. and their eyes light up and they start telling you a tale of picking or eating these delicacies.

We have been receiving calls saying that letters to us have been returned. We are still living in the same house but, for some reason, we have been having trouble receiving our mail. Just resend that letter which was returned to you to us at P.O. Box 9, Hunlock Creek, PA 18621.

We have no paid reporters. We depend upon our readers to furnish us with news items. We are grateful to so many of you who cut out articles in your newspaper and send us news of the Orthodox world in your area. In the last month, we have lost two of our reporters, Michael DeBeck and Helen Cudlic. Please fill the void which their deaths have left.

In this our fiftieth year of publication, we have been comparing and contrasting church life then and now. Then every parish, no matter how small, had a cantor or a choirmaster who sang the responses to all the services and saw to it that everything was ready for the service. Depending upon the resources of the parish, this was either a full time or part-time paid position or was filled by a volunteer. It was the responsibility of the church committee to see that this position was always filled. It is the law of the Church that the priest cannot serve a Divine Liturgy alone. These men, cantor or prof, knew the books and the ustav and were often well trained in music. Their services were not always appreciated but they were gratified to sing to the glory of God.

With the change from Church Slavonic to English, it was anticipated that their ranks would be replenished, as there would no longer be the necessity of learning Church Slavonic. The opposite has happened. Few men seem interested. Sadly, church committees no longer assume the responsibility of filling this position. The priest's wife is usually recruited, which is only a temporary solution, for when her husband is no longer in the parish, she is also gone. Continuity is lost. Books in English are now available, we must start to recruit and prepare cantors and "profs." The beauty of the church services is suffering in too many parishes.

We want to express our appreciation to twenty-nine people who have taken the responsibility of sponsoring or distributing packets of **The Orthodox Herald** in their parishes. We try to make the paper informative, educational and interesting. We need your help in finding readers. A gift subscription or sponsoring a packet would help get the Word of God out and spread knowledge about the Orthodox Church in your parish.

The Stroyens

CHECK IT OUT

There are at least 4 duplicate sets of verses in the Psalms. They are Psalm 57:7-11 and Psalm 108:1-5, also Psalm 40:13-17 and Psalm 70, also Psalm 14 and Psalm 53, finally Psalm 60:5-12 and Psalm 108:6-13.

The Book of Psalms is divided into five sections. Psalms 1 to 41; Psalms 42-72; Psalms 90-106 and Psalms 107 to 150. Each one ends with a doxology "Blessed Be the Lord God."

No wonder there are duplicates - It took over 1000 years to write the Psalms. This extended from the year 1410 to 430 Before Christ (B.C.).



The Food Marketing Institute did a survey of 1000 supermarket consumers. They found that of those who prepare at least 3 home-cooked meals a week, fewer than half of them prepare them primarily from scratch. They used mixes, frozen or canned foods and bagged salads to help them speed the process. With this information in mind, I selected this month's recipe from a beautiful cookbook: Food For The Soul, published by the All Saints Orthodox Church Altar Sisterhood, 205 Scarborough Street, Hartford, CT 06105.

The book has traditional and Lenten recipes interspersed throughout the book, as well as a section devoted to traditional Russian Orthodox Easter and Lenten recipes. The book is unusually sturdy and easy to use. It can be ordered for $15 plus $3 for postage from the address above.

Anna Davis shared a recipe for Pagach using bread dough, which can be purchased frozen at your supermarket. Mary Karpey uses Pillsbury hot roll mix. Both are delicious.

PAGACH (Russian Pizza)

3 med. potatoes
1 med. onion
1/4 lb. (1 stick) oleo
salt and pepper to taste
1 T. milk
5 oz. Longhorn milk cheddar cheese
bread dough enough for one good sized loaf.

Roll out bread dough 1/4 inch thick and cut in half. Place 1/2 on cookie sheet about 11 1/2 x 15 1/2 inches. Cook potatoes in 2-quart pot of salted water until done. Drain. Fry onions in oleo until golden. Cut up the cheese. Add fried onions, oleo and cheese to drained potatoes. Add milk and salt and pepper. Mash everything well. Place filling on bottom of half of dough, spreading it evenly. Cover with the other 1/2 of dough for top. Pinch edges together all around. With a fork, punch air holes on

(Continued on Page 121 Col. 2)

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PERIODICAL POSTAGE PAID

The righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance.

WHEN YOU AND YOUR CHILD COME TO CHURCH

This is an excellent time to teach your child many of the important facts and beliefs about our Faith. It is also a time that you can demonstrate to them the correct way to behave and show reverence during services and proper behavior in the church building.

•Entering the Church

Upon entering the church, the parent should explain why it is customary to light a candle. Jesus Christ is the "Light of the world" and we light candles to remind ourselves of the fact that He is the light by which we walk in this world. We first receive our lighted candle at baptism and we carry it throughout our life. The candle also illumines our path and shows us the way to salvation by Christ - The Light and The Holy Spirit - The Fire of Faith.

When the parent kisses the Icon and then lifts the child to do the same, we need to explain that this is the Orthodox way of greeting each other with a "Holy Kiss" as St. Paul instructs us to do. The meaning and importance of icons are an essential part of our Faith and centuries back Orthodox Christians defended icons with their lives. Future articles will talk about icons.

•Don't try to do too much each time

Professional educators tell us to explain one symbol or major thought at each experience, because too much in too short a time is confusing to young children. Doing a little at a time will give you time to prepare yourself for other ideas and instruction.

Fr. Elias Mitchell

Home Bible Reading Schedule

OCTOBER 2001

1 Heb 9:1-7	17 Phil 2:24-30
2 Eph 5:20-26	18 Col 4:5-9, 14, 18
3 Eph 5:25-33	19 Phil 3:8-19
4 Eph 5:33-6:9	20 2 Cor 1:8-11
5 Eph 6:18-24	21 **Gal 1:11-19**
6 1 Cor 15:39-45	22 Phil 4:10-23
7 **2 Cor 9:6-11**	23 Col 1:1-2, 7-11
8 Phil 1:1-7	24 Col 1:18-23
9 Phil 1:8-14	25 Col 1:24-29
10 Phil 1:12-20	26 2 Tim 2:1-10
11 Phil 1:20-27	27 2 Cor 3:12-18
12 Phil 1:27-2:4	28 **Gal 2:16-20**
13 1 Cor 15:58-16:3	29 Col 2:13-20
14 **2 Cor 11:31-12:9**	30 Col 2:20-33
15 Phil 2:12-16	31 Col 3:17-14:1
16 Phil 2:17-23	

BIBLE STUDY

While visiting in Europe, we saw a farmer sowing by hand. He had a canvas contraption strapped on that looked somewhat like a kangaroo pouch. He filled it with seed and went out to sow. He cast his seed everywhere.

When a farmer sows seed in his field, it looks like he's throwing it away. It seems to be lost, but it isn't really gone. In due time he gets it back – with much more besides.

When we give ourselves to Christ, it may seem to some people as if we're throwing our life away. But He said that it is only as we lose our lives in Him that we find true life. (Matthew 10:39)

Jesus teaches us to measure our lives by losses rather than gains, by sacrifices rather than self-preservation, by time spent for others rather than time lavished upon ourselves, by love poured out rather than loves poured in.

It's a rule of life: God blesses those who give of their lives and resources; "He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully." (2 Cor 9:6). Give out the truth you know, and He'll give you more to give away. Give your time, and you'll have more time to give. Set no limit on your love, and you'll have more love for others than before.

In Proverbs we read: "There is one who scatters, yet increases more" (11:24). It's one of the oldest paradoxes in the world, but it works.

CASSETTE LISTENING SCHEDULE

October 7 18th Sunday
Luke 7:11-16 ns Cassette 22
Luke 5:1-11 os Cassette 21

October 14 19th Sunday
Luke 8:5-15 ns Cassette 23
Luke 6:31-36 os Cassette 22

October 21 20th Sunday
Luke 16:19-31 ns Cassette 23
Luke 7:11-16 os Cassette 22

October 28 21st Sunday
Luke 8:26-38 ns Cassette 24
Luke 8:5-15 os Cassette 23

A full set of 27 tapes 54 programs from the **Herald** is available for $135, no other charges. The tapes have the best in Slavonic Liturgical music, a homily, gospel reading, and much more.

LIGHTER MOMENT

A little boy was heard praying: "Lord, if you can't make me a better boy, don't worry about it. I'm having a good time like I am."